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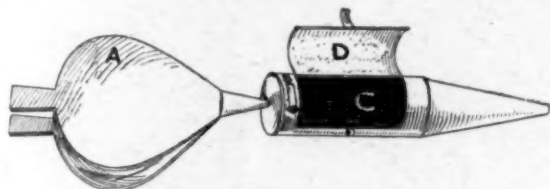
## CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES

### Something About the Bellows Bee-Smoker.

BY T. F. BINGHAM.

IN his article on page 50, "Old Grimes" claims for M. Quinby what I think there is a lack of evidence that M. Quinby ever claimed himself, viz.: that he was the inventor of the bellows bee-smoker. In the position he occupied it would have been impossible to have been ignorant of the position and details of the old German bellows bee-smoker in common use in the old country, and brought to this land by bee-keepers who came here bringing their knowledge and implements.

After bee-keepers learned that an improvement in bee-smokers had been made, they would come to me in their enthusiasm to tell me of their old bellows bee-smoker, and compare it with the new wonder that would burn anything and not go out. Of course, I express a wish to see the smokers, as I was very much interested in them. I learned of several, and one bee-keeper offered to give me his old one as a curiosity, and I gladly accepted it. I kept it, with one of M. Quinby's earliest makes, as curios till my smoker factory was destroyed by fire, and with it my precious old smokers. It was a finely made affair, with a nicely fitted hinged door, and a slide vent to be used when the smoker was laid down, showing plainly that it was made in large



numbers for sale, and not as a single experiment. I enclose a rough sketch of it. It will be observed that all the change necessary to make it a first Quinby would be to bend the exhaust in such a manner that the fire-box would stand upright, and the bellows stand on end instead of lying down. Of course, it had the same tendency to go out as the Quinby invention Mr. Grimes refers to—neither of them would keep sound wood burning—unless the bellows was workt.

I think M. Quinby never claimed that he invented the bellows bee-smoker, but that he did invent the Quinby bee-smoker. And I have never been accused of claiming the invention of the bellows bee-smoker, that I know of. But I do claim to have invented the first bellows bee-smoker that would burn anything combustible without working the bellows, and not go out.

Clare Co., Mich.

### Pollination the Best Work of the Honey-Bees.

BY PROF. A. J. COOK.

THE castor-oil plant is a very beautiful and a most interesting plant. The rich color, the vigorous habit, the finely cut leaves, and, perhaps most of all, the curious bloom can but attract and greatly interest any who give it careful attention. It is one of those plants that cry out in its very structure in loudest praise of the mission and work of the honey-bee. I now have very interesting classes of 38 who are studying these things, and all have studied this plant with enthusiastic interest. Bee-keepers may well feel very kindly towards this plant, for it is always praising the bees. The flowers are in a crowded raceme, almost a spike, and with the similarly colored leaves of rich, brownish red are most pleasing to look upon.

The most interesting thing of these flowers is the fact that they are monœcious. By this we mean that the pistillate flowers—those that have only pistils and bear the seeds—are separate from the staminate ones, or those that bear only stamens, and of course can never bear seeds. These flowers are not only on the same plant, as is the case with all monœcious plants, but in this case they are in the same flower cluster. In many plants like the willow the staminate and pistillate flowers are on different plants. These are called diœcious.

In the plant in question, the pistillate flowers are at the tip of the flower cluster, and open before the other flowers do. Thus these flowers are pollinated before the basal or staminate flowers open. Thus the pollen for which they hunger must come from other flowers. Before the closely neighboring and as closely related staminate flowers are open at all, they are well along in the race of development. The staminate flowers do, however, aid the others indirectly, as they are rich in color, and are a signal to the bees that here is rich nectar for them, and that they can not afford to pass it by. Later, after the seeds have developed quite considerably the staminate flowers open, and offer to the bees their rich stores of pollen, which is thus borne off to other pistillate flowers to fructify other ovules, or embryo seeds, that they may push on towards fully developed seeds.

Two important truths are gathered from this interesting plan of the castor-oil plant. First, the waiting pistillate flowers would starve for the needed pollen and come to naught, were it not for the kindly ministries of nectar and pollen loving insects, chief and by far the most important of which are the honey-bees. The ovules, to develop, must have pollen, and that must come from other flowers, perhaps from a long distance away. The other point is equally patent: "Nature abhors close fertilization." She enforces cross-pollination in case of the castor-oil plant. She does the same in more emphatic words in case of all diœcious plants, like the willow, oak, and walnut. Here the pollen must come from other, very likely far distant, plants, and the aid of bees is still more imperative.

In many hermaphrodite plants where the stamens and the pistils are side by side in very close proximity in the same flower, as in case of many pears, apples, and other fruit, the same law is announced in the fact that these fruits are sterile to their own pollen. We find the same

truth proclaimed in the higher, animal realm. Closely inbred cattle are more ready to contract disease, like consumption, than those not consanguineous. The laws in some States against intermarriage of near relatives is not the creature of a nervous imagination. Ask Nature, and she will say, "Don't."

Close investigation, carried on by myself and many others, has shown that this necessity of cross-pollination is very general. With most of our valuable plants we can not hope for full fruitage unless there is opportunity for this cross-pollination. In many cases the cross-pollination must be provided for or there will be no crop at all. I have a case in point: A sister living on the Sacramento River has a large and very productive orchard of pears, apricots, cherries and prunes. I visited her in 1891, and she asked me regarding the reason that her orchard was producing less than formerly. The trees *bloomed heavily*, but the fruit *did not set*. I asked if there were not more bees formerly than at that time. She bethought herself and answered yes. I said when good, vigorous trees blossom heavily and do not fruit well, always suspect lack of pollination. She at once engaged an apiarist to move his bees to the place, and at once received market benefits. She has kept the apiary there ever since. She feels that she can afford to pay for the presence of the bees, and she is right.

I visited her the other day, and upon examination it was found that trees in near proximity to trees of other varieties were setting far more freely than those farther off, and the decrease was very marked. This was a very graphic object lesson. I have no doubt but the annual loss from the absence of bees and the planting of varieties in solid blocks, is tremendous. We have our orchards in great proportion, often hundreds of acres in one place. Indigenous or native insects can not do the large work of pollination, and we must bring the bees to the rescue. No doubt "Good cultivation" may well be the motto of the orchardist, but close along side should be the second one, "Mixt varieties and the honey-bee."

We have had two fine rains within a week, the best of the season. They are late for the honey product, but will do immense good, and may help the bee-keeper. The alfalfa fields are increasing very rapidly, and will in the future become more important even than in the past, as a source of excellent honey. Los Angeles Co., Calif., May 11.



## NO. 8.—COMB HONEY PRODUCTION.

### Method of Taking off Supers—When and How.

BY R. C. AIKIN.

**T**HERE seems to be much difference of opinion as to how to get supers off and free of bees. This is like many other things in the business, just what and how to do depends upon circumstances.

In the midst of the flow, when bees are busy in the fields, they will often allow honey to stand exposed all day and not rob. At such time the removal of supers of sections is a very easy matter, about as easy as anything we find to do in the apiary. I begin at one end or corner of the apiary and work regularly over it, lifting the cover and looking at each to see if anything needs to be done to supers. I have a pile of empty supers ready carried into the apiary, and wherever one is needed I give it as directed in the preceding article, and where I find a super ready to take off I remove it in this way:

If I know before opening the super that it is ready to take off, if it be on top I begin to pry up the cover and shoot smoke under it as quickly as there is a crack big enough. I start the cover gently, not necessarily slowly, but so the bees are not angered, pumping the smoke hard enough to spread it all over the section tops (I use a board cover), frightening the bees, but not making them angry. I do not smoke in the entrance at all, not using smoke about the entrance except when they are touchy, when I give enough over the alighting-board to frighten back the guards.

Having started the smoke over the sections in this way, the bees start running down, and without delay I keep the smoke right up after them, and do not let them have time to stop running. Do not smoke clear down thru the super at once, but keep the smoke right *after* them so they will *keep on the run*. It is hard to describe so you can do it the first time, but after reading this description you can very soon get the knack if you try carefully. As soon as the *bulk* of the bees have past below, very quickly remove the

super, and turn it up endwise on the left arm till it is perpendicular, or a little more, so it will rest back against the arm, and, with a proper sweeping-instrument, *at once* sweep the bees off the bottom, and then stand the super on *end* on a hive or the ground.

The best broom I have ever found is a wisp of grass about as long and big as my arm, and wrapt with stout cord in two or five places. Make it out of slough-grass, or some long-bladed kind, and not too stemmy or stiff. Keep the brush in the yard, tighten the cords occasionally, and when it gets dry and brash dip it in water. Such will sweep almost the entire bottom of a super at one lick.

Notice that these operations must be done promptly. From the time you start the cover till the super is off and the bees brushed from the bottom, and the super is standing on end out of your hands, is much quicker than you can read this description, the only stop necessary is just a few seconds, or a minute to allow the bees time to run down. If you get to dallying, and let the bees turn back to recover the combs, you will find it harder to drive them down the second time. For this reason it is important to determine quickly whether the super is ready to come off, and proceed at once to get it off.

If it is necessary for me to look to see if it is ready, I very frequently look at the bottom of it *first*, by prying it up at one end, the other still resting on the hive, and as the bees retreat upward I see very quickly if the sections are finished at the bottoms, particularly the outer corners, and, if ready, at once let it down in place again, and send the bees down from the top before they have recovered from their first fright.

In this way I go thru the yard taking off supers and standing them on end, usually on top of the hive from which taken; putting on empties where needed; shifting a bottom super to the top, or *vice versa*; and, whatever is needed in the arrangement of supers, doing the whole job regularly. Thus the yard is put in shape to wait several days or a week for another similar overhauling.

After I get thru with the removing, putting on and arranging supers, I carry in those scattered about the yard. If the honey-house is right by I do not take much pains to get any bees out that still remain, but take the supers to the honey-room and stand them on end again before a window screened, but with an escape of some kind. The remaining bees will very soon pass out at the window, and the supers can be piled regularly later.

If many bees are yet in the supers when I get ready to carry them in, and I want them all out, I smoke thru the super, holding the smoker in the left hand usually, the brush in my right, and as fast as they come out I sweep them off. If this process be gone thru with when there is honey being gathered, it is a very quick and successful method. It will not do to leave supers about the yard when bees would rob. Neither should the work be done in the early morning unless there be unsealed honey in plenty for the bees to load their sacs, better wait a little till enough bees come from the field so they are already loaded.

But the time when the great danger comes is when no nectar is being gathered, and more so if the honey is nearly all sealed, for then the bees will bite open the cappings to get their sacs full, and so mar the sections. At such times it is possible to send the bees down *on the run* before they can think of cutting open sealed cells, and care must be exercised to drive them nearly all out before stopping. Also, when a super is off the hive go at once with it to the honey-room to keep it from robbers. A careful taking off of honey in this way will prove most expeditious, and will get it off in good shape and free from any serious puncturing of cappings by the bees.

If the honey-house is distant, a small room or tent by the apiary will be very convenient to keep supers in over night. Take off in the middle of the day, and very few bees will be left in over night; if any should remain they hunt home early in the morning. I practice this almost exclusively, and can take off a ton of honey in a very few hours at most, when not doing other work with this. My escapes are on the windows. I have some in the shop, but never use them. This plan leaves the escape out of sight when used in a board to place under the super.

It may look to many as if it was a lot of work to do so much watching and manipulating of supers—it does take some time, but it is time *well spent*. Have every hive equipt with a honey-board above the brood-combs, so there are no burr-combs built to the section-bottoms; a bee-space and board-cover over the sections, then it is a very simple matter to handle supers. They should come off clean, and no



drip whatever from burr-combs or attachments between supers, or super and brood-combs.

This does not close all I have to say about comb honey, but as I want all to be seasonable, I will in the next article take up the question of the *production of extracted honey*. After the production has been discussed, we will consider grading, packing, and marketing. I ask for these articles a careful reading, and if there is anything amiss anywhere I would be pleased to have any one point it out.

Larimer Co., Colo.

### Causes of Large Losses of Bees in the Winter and Spring of 1899, in Clark Co., Wis.

Written for the Wisconsin Convention, held at Madison, Feb. 7 and 8, 1900,  
BY HERBERT CLUTE.

IT is hard to say what was the real cause of the loss of bees, as there are so many bee-keepers that differ; but I wish to give the causes as I see them, and as I have persuaded others to see them, altho they would have it that it was bad honey, until they had examined the hives.

To begin with, on July 25 and 26, 1898, we had rain with some hail. This shut the bees off the latter part of the bass-wood bloom, and ruined the nectar-bearing plants. From that date until the bees went into winter quarters, they never gained a pound, according to the scales under the hives. They even lost three to four pounds per day for some days, regardless of the great amount of brood in the hives that consumed much feed. There was lots of pollen coming in that deceived a portion of the real loss, so that I say our great loss was by starvation, and nothing else.

In my Greenwood apiary the bees were placed in the root-house, as I knew that they were light, and it takes little honey there to last until spring, and the chances were that I would have to feed them. When spring came all were placed on the summer stands, very strong in bees, but light in honey. I noticed a large number had not over a pound of honey, while 20 colonies perished before being put out without any honey. The covers on some of those put out did not fit tight. At this time I received a telegram notifying me of my father's sickness, and I had only an hour and a half to catch the train. I saw a young man that promised to fix the covers and feed the bees the one-half barrel of extracted honey, and also a large amount of honey in extra combs, which I had saved for that purpose. In a couple of days he wrote stating that he had fed the bees, and I did not worry so much about them after that.

It was 12 days before I could return, and, when I did, I found that over 180 colonies had perished, and the rest were lighter than the day they were put out. In looking at the feed in stock I found that not over 15 pounds had been used for the whole apiary. Of course, the young man did the best he knew how, altho it was very different from what I had told him. I fed at once so as not to lose any more, and they were very weak.

Hearing of other heavy losses I visited George Drinkwine, who had the same number of colonies as I had and had lost as many. He claimed that the cause of the loss was bad honey, and would have it so, until we examined the hives where bees had died, and found that there was honey excepting in a few of the outside combs.

I then called on Walter Miller, who lost all but two out of 70 colonies. His bees had been in a very cold place, so they had consumed lots of honey, and were starved long before spring.

One lady had 12 colonies in a garret that was quite warm, and the bees being disturbed, consumed lots of honey, and the hives were empty of feed long before spring. Another lady lost 70 colonies in a bee-cellar that was heated by pipes; she had wintered them before in this cellar and had never lost any.

Of the 30 different apiaries in this county the loss was from 50 percent to an entire loss, except two apiaries that were fed plenty of honey—more than their year's gathering. These apiaries did not lose a colony, but were very strong. One of these yards containing 25 colonies was increased to 35, and produced an average per colony of 160 pounds of extracted honey. If it was bad honey that caused the loss, why did not these bees perish, as they were fed the same kind of honey as we fed ours?

I also noticed an apiary of 50 light colonies at the time I began feeding after returning home. I found on opening the hives that some of them contained one or two pounds of honey, and a few contained from six to eight pounds. Not having the feed or the capital to buy sugar for feed, the

bees took their course, to live or die. They dwindled up to the time new honey came in, and half of them were starved. They began to make a gain in breeding, while those with the most honey in the hives picked up the poorest. If this lot of bees dwindled from any other cause than starvation from the time I began to feed at Greenwood, why did not my bees then dwindle from the time of feeding, etc.? If the great loss was caused by the severe winter, how was it that many a colony wintered all right on the summer stands all unpacked for winter, that had never a top box on so as to store honey that had to crowd out the brood and then store honey in the commencement of the honey harvest? They had no protection in the least, but were on a bench 2½ feet from the ground to give the wind and the cold full play. Each year before last there have been colonies wintered safely in the same way.

Clark Co., Wis.

### How Far Will Bees Go for Food, or Gather Profitably?

BY C. P. DADANT.

THERE has been considerable comment in the bee-papers on the question of how far bees will go in search of honey. I take it that the only thing of importance to the bee-keeper at large on this subject is, "How far will bees go and harvest honey to make a crop pay?" I have written on this subject a number of times, but have perhaps never given a summing up of our experience, which I propose to do now, leaving the reader to draw his own conclusions. And here, let me say that I do not seek to make a great display. I do not claim the best results, or to have done more than others; in a word, I am not trying to "astonish the natives." The results we have obtained are very ordinary, and I feel sure that no one after reading this will feel unable to follow in the same path, for it is a very prosaic one, and not a difficult one. The crops were not astonishing, but they were fair and steady, and in the end have paid for the labor with a good profit.

The first out-apiary that we ever put out was placed in 1872, five miles north of our home-apiary. This apiary, two miles from the Mississippi River, was removed after three years to a location on the edge of the river, and about the same distance from our home-yard, as mentioned above. Then another apiary was established in 1876, three miles northeast from the latter, and about two miles from the river. Another one was placed shortly after five miles southwest from our location, also on the river shores, but in a spot where a number of islands and lowlands furnished some fall pasturage. Later apiaries were successively placed, one at Keokuk, back of the city half a mile, one on the lowlands of the Mississippi River, south of Warsaw, 12 miles from home, another later on the edge of the bluffs in the same vicinity, and still two more such apiaries about three miles apart along those bluffs. Another was also placed two miles south, about four miles from where we live, in a good clover neighborhood. From time to time an apiary was discontinued and another established, but we have at no time had less than two apiaries since 1872, a period of 28 years, and for 20 of those 28 years we have had six apiaries at one time in different locations.

As to the number of colonies, we have never permitted it to exceed 120 in any place. The average number was from 80 to 90 in each apiary, and the aim was not to allow any more increase than would make up for winter losses. This has been generally observed, as our methods do not give much incitation to the swarming-impulse.

Our experience has been, all along, that with the same care, the same management, and hives of similar shape and size, the results in one apiary invariably differed from those of another, and nearly always in the same proportion, evidently according to the location, even tho this location was only a short distance—never less than three miles from any other apiary—in all cases but one.

In the locations near the Mississippi, we found invariably a smaller crop than anywhere else. We must remark that the Mississippi at this point is about a mile wide, and in our estimation it acted almost as a barrier to the work of the bees on that side, altho we have evidences that they, in many cases, crossed the river for honey. Yet none were found very far on the other side, and the flight of the bees as they emerged from the hives evidenced the fact that they were not prone to go in that direction. Approaching the apiary from the east the roar of the bees could be plainly heard at a quarter of a mile, caused by the foragers passing

over our heads, while, if we approacht the apiary from the river shore, no noise was heard till we were at the side of the hives.

The three apiaries that we had along the bluffs south of Warsaw, about three miles apart, were from two to four miles from the river, and separated from it by the richest land in the State except the upper apiary, which was separated from the river by a number of sandy ridges that grew little more than cockleburs and willows, but the rich lowlands were even there only a mile and a half away. The best yielding portion of these bottom-lands is that which is least adapted to cultivation, being too low to drain well, and producing only knot-weeds and Spanish-needles in profusion during the months of July, August and September, when the waters recede and the moisture evaporates sufficiently to enable them to grow and thrive. We have every season invariably harvested larger crops from the apiary which was the nearest to these lowlands—only a quarter of a mile—than from either of the others.

The difference in the quality of the honey, from one apiary to another, has also shown itself plainly, even when they were but three miles apart. Here we must say that the soil being very varied the crops are dissimilar, but during a clover crop, when clover was to be seen everywhere, one might have expected the honey to be similar, yet we have always been unable to sell clover honey from one apiary upon a sample taken from another, and the same may be said of the fall crop.

Not only have the above-mentioned remarks shown that the bees harvested only the local crop of their immediate neighborhood, but we have noticed, in two or three seasons of scarcity, that they were unable to find blossoms located five miles away, and even less. The bees of our home-apiary generally take their bee-line in a northeast direction up the valley on which we live, probably because there are no impediments in their course in that direction. Very few go west in the direction of the river.

In 1880, the worst year of honey famine we have known, a neighbor's bees, located close to the river west of us, were storing honey and whitening their combs on the honey harvested from a couple hundred acres of lowland, while ours, less than two miles off, had not found it. In that same year we removed one entire apiary, as mentioned above, to the heart of the lowlands, below Warsaw, to the overflowed lands which were covered with a luxuriant growth that had sprung up as fast as the high waters of the river receded, while our hills were parcht by drouth. This apiary produced an abundant crop, while apiaries five miles off in a bee-line in the hills had to be fed for winter.

From all this it appears to me that if we want success we must place our bees within a short distance of the crop, and that distance, in my own case, I place at a mile and a half at the outside.

Do not understand me as taking exception to the statements made by some apiarists that bees do go six, eight, and even 10 miles in search of honey, but you can readily see from this experience of 28 consecutive years that one can not consider such distances as safe to be relied upon for a good honey crop. If bees make a practice of flying after food so far would there be any chance of overstocking any location, even if one kept a thousand colonies in one place? An area of say eight miles in every direction makes a pasture of the extent of some 250 square miles, or 160,000 acres, allowing the fractions for the rounding off of the outline. Just think of it! You would have a practically unlimited field, and the kind of crop that might be produced in your vicinity would cut very little figure in your crop since bees fly fast enough to make the time occupied in the trip of little importance.

But that which evidenced to us most emphatically the importance of location close to the pasture was the amount of honey harvested. If I remember rightly, the highest average per colony in one apiary during our very best season, amounted to some 140 pounds per colony, but during that same season an apiary in a poorer location yielded only an average of 50 pounds, and the result was the same every year; the latter location making a less amount of harvest proportionally. The apiaries located at the edge of the bluffs always gave a big crop of fall honey, while those entirely on the bluff, and away from the lowlands, gave the bigger yield of clover crop.

Hancock Co., Ill.

**The Premiums** offered this week are well worth working for. Look at them.

## The Early Bee—What "He" Is, and How to Get "Him."

Written for the last Convention of the California Bee-Keepers' Association,  
BY W. A. PRYAL.

YOUR secretary askt me to contribute a paper on some bee-topic for your edification. In an evil hour my egotism prompted me to give him an affirmative answer. Then for days I racked my brain in an endeavor to hit upon an original subject. This effort on my part came near being my undoing; it addled my brain, and started several screws, all of which will account for the oddity of the remarks which follow. My choice of a subject, I think, is a good one, and I have chosen to lay it before you in the shape of an epistle, rather than in the hackneyed form of an essay, learned and dry.

There is an old saying that "the early bird catches the worm," which I am going to paraphrase by saying, "that the early bee catches the honey." Of course this is not exactly true, as we know that the bee does not catch anything, as he is neither a baseball player, a policeman, nor a terrier, tho he is something of a bird of rare plumage, especially when he is of the five-banded golden kind we read about in the advertisements of queen-breeders who vie with one another in their endeavor to disseminate *Apis Americana*.

But I must be more serious, for I recognize the fact that I have the honor of having these crude, and, I am afraid, uninteresting statements read to a body of gentlemen who are wont to be of a contemplative disposition, for Nature has, particularly here in the Golden State, destined most bee-men to pursue the even tenor of their way in some quiet ravine, or, may be, on the slope of some towering sentry of a mountain-range, where the white hives add a gravelike stillness to the scene by their tombstone appearance. It is a life among the bees amid such surroundings that makes our bee-men to a great extent hermits and lovers of the serious side of life.

Then, I must say that joking is not in my line; and, besides, I should not attempt it. I have heard of a couple of bad instances where the malady has strangely afflicted persons connected with apiarian pursuits, and, if I am not mistaken, the affliction has been a source of annoyance to some of their friends. I believe, gentlemen, that you are aware of how this trouble has taken a deadly hold of some of the brightest minds that adorn the pages of our modern bee-literature. Just look at the havoc it has made with Editor York, of the American Bee Journal. Behold his well-turned puns, and see how they run rampant thru the pages of the "Old Reliable" weekly. Then, Ernest Root's foot-notes in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture* are editorials indeed, but in them lurk the root of many a cunning joke. In "Stray Straws" a Miller (C. C.) sees a means of grinding out a crop of chaff and substantial food at the same time; and, perhaps, just beside him may be that prince of apicultural humorists, the never-to-be-suppress Rambler, whose fun and frolic is known to you all. I trust for your sake that he is far away from you during this meeting, as otherwise his pen and crayon and tell-tale camera may be getting in their deadly work on some unsuspecting attending honey-producer!

But what has all this to do with the early bee, you may ask? Surely nothing.

Gentlemen, I shall not joke. I will be serious, and proceed to find the early honey that catches the bee—no, I mean the early bee that gathers the honey, and like a good dog that has retrieved your game, lay it before you.

To begin, I will state there are several kinds of early bees. The one I dread the most is the too previous bee. I dare say you have run against this amusing little creature on more than one occasion. He usually makes your acquaintance when you least suspect his presence. He darts from his hive at all seasons, early and late, tho seldom behind time, as he tries to be never late in getting in his work upon you, which is too often done in a decorative sort of way about your optics.

Perhaps you have heard of the spelling-bee. Of course you have, and I shall not waste time in referring to the thing. It cometh in the night, and is too late for notice by me any way. Ditto husking-bee.

My bee is not any of these; neither is he *Apis dorsata*, *Apis Filipino*, or even *Apis Aurora borealis*, whatever the latter may be in the bee-line.

Another early bee, and the one I believe you think I have in mind, is the one that riseth from his soft and downy couch in the wee sma' hours of morning, throws off his



nightcap, rubs the cobwebs from his eyes, eats his breakfast of flapjacks and honey, and sallies forth to meet the rising sun and the expanding nectar-laden flowers down by the riverside. This is the industrious little bee that we heard so much of during our childhood years—our parents told us of this little morsel of the insect world when they wish to impress upon us ways of usefulness and neatness, and teachers sermonized to us about him and the ant—how industrious they were, and what lessons we should learn from them. For the present I shall pass this bee by as not being the one I am after. Your old bee is behind the times for me; mine is trained to a different manner of life. I will state that he is no spring chicken, which may seem strange, since I have held out to you that he is an early bee.

This bee of mine has become hardened by the frosts of winter; he has learned to wear an overcoat, and at the first approach of spring he discards the garment and hies himself to the flower-fields, there to gather in the nectar in a way that makes the bee-man's heart rejoice. No wonder you are already proclaiming him a most wonderful honey-producer. I feel that there is not a bee-keeper in this glorious country of ours but wants this remarkable little worker. My friends, he shall be yours, if you only do as I have done to get him. In finding him I was necessarily under much expense and trouble, but never mind, I have found him, and will charge you nothing for my labor. I shall feel well repaid if you have the same success with him as I have had.

As you must be impatient by this time to know all about this early bee, I shall hurry to tell you all about him.

My bee is one that does not require a warehouse full of provisions to supply his kitchen during the days that are dark, and cold, and dreary—those days when good nitrogenous food is required by man and beast to put an extra coat of fat where it will do the most good to ward off cold. We know that an old animal is more susceptible to cold than a young animal; that the latter does not require so much fat-producing food as the other; neither is he so likely to hug the fire of a cold day, tho he may have to put on a warm overcoat to keep the cold out. Now, the bee I have for wintering is the very youngest bee I can get. He is padded with fat, and walketh like an alderman.

We know that no matter how well filled a hive of bees may be in the fall, it won't have near so many occupants at the approach of winter. To some extent this is a wise provision of Nature, as there are less bees to feed.

Where I have managed bees for so many years I find that it is wise to leave the colonies to their own sweet will after the first week in July. It is after this time that the queen ceases to lay as many eggs as she did during the forepart of the year. The population of the hives is daily diminishing, so that by the beginning of winter, as I have intimated, the colony will be much reduced in number. Now, I do not want my colonies to dwindle down to a hatful of bees. I want good, strong colonies to take thru the winter, even if they will consume a goodly supply of honey. And I do not want a lot of old bees for this purpose, either. The latter are not likely to hold out thru the winter, many of them will die during those balmy winter days we are wont to have in this climate, for bees will venture out every time the sun casts his beaming countenance on a glad some earth. Too oft are such days but traps to catch the unwary bee; with merry hum he flies forth, but ere he has time to return a fatal change may take place and dash the busy worker to an untimely grave. A young bee is more apt to withstand such hardship, but not so the bee of last year.

To get this early and young bee I proceed in late October, after the colony and the queen have had sufficient rest, to arrange the supers with feeders so as to coax the queen to renewed egg-laying by stimulative feeding. The feeders allow but a limited quantity of liquid to flow, as it is only desirable to build up gently. By this plan I have had a queen fill the brood-chamber with bees by Christmas, after which time I cease to provide further feed. And by this time, too, the hive was well provisioned with stores, so that in some instances it was necessary to remove a few combs of honey, which, at this period of the year, are serviceable in assisting destitute colonies to "keep the wolf from the door," if I may be allowed to use the expression.

After the queen has been the means of producing such a large stock of young bees at a season when nature intended that she should take a rest from her maternal duties, it is well to remove her to a hive where she will not be called upon to do much egg-laying until spring is well under way. In her place introduce a young queen of known prolificness that has not yet been called upon to propagate her species

out of season. Your hive is now ready to begin its spring campaign in a most wonderful way, as you will find out if you give this method a trial. The colony will be strong and vigorous, and by the middle of February, if not before, it will be in a condition to swarm, but this is not yet desired. If it is too strong, and there is evidences of its swarming, you might take some of the combs with adhering bees and give them to a weak colony, say the one you placed the mother of your "early bees" with.

I do not know of a better way of having populous colonies at the earliest date possible than by the plan just outlined. It gives you strong colonies for winter, and as the inmates, with few exceptions, are young bees, they live well into spring. For the apiarist who desires to build up by division this is a capital plan, at least I have found it so. He is given the material at the very opening of spring, and by judicious manipulation he may increase two-fold and have a good working-force when the main honey crop arrives.

Now, my friends, I have told you what I know about the early bee, tho it took me some time to do so—perhaps I should have taken a bee-line and have gotten at my object sooner. I hope my subject and its treatment has not disappointed you. You may have expected something better. I feel confident that after you have given the method a thoro trial you will exclaim, as I did after discovering it, "Eureka!" Pray do not let me hear that any of you were "onto" this trick long ago, as that would be a sad disappointment to me, and blast my hopes of being considered one of the great lights in the galaxy of apicultural giants. My place along with Langstroth, Huber, Dzierzon and other big guns would be "knocked into a cockt hat."

Thanking you, my friends, for allowing me to tire you with the foregoing remarks, wise and otherwise, and asking your pardon for having repeatedly referred to your little pets as belonging to the masculine gender, when, I believe, most of you hold that I should have called the worker-bee an "it" or a "she;" and promising not to disturb your equanimity further during this meeting, I beg to subscribe myself—

YOURS FOR THE EARLY BEE.

Alameda Co., Calif.



## Essential Points in Rearing Good Queens.

BY J. P. MOORE.

**T**O rear good queens, equal to those reared under the swarming-impulse, three essential points must be observed, viz.:

1st. They must be reared from small larvæ. Those 12 to 24 hours old are just right for the purpose. If bees are given larvæ of all ages from which to rear queens, some of the queens will be almost worthless. Doolittle puts the limit at 36 hours, but, to be on the safe side, I would advise the use of larvæ not more than 24 hours old; for no queen-breeder will say that the former are better than the latter.

2d. The queen-cells must be built in full colonies well supplied with young bees. The young bees do the nursing; therefore, it is necessary to have plenty of young bees to feed the embryo queens a large quantity of the royal food, that strong, well-developed queens may be produced.

3d. They must be either reared during a good honey-flow, or in the absence of this, liberal feeding must be practiced.

This is highly important, and is the only way in which we can rear good queens after the honey season is over.

During my 20 years' experience in queen-rearing I have tried every method which has been brought to public notice, and I consider Doolittle's method far superior to all others. This method combines the essential points mentioned above in the highest degree. By it we are enabled to have queen-cells built in the upper story of any colony devoted to the production of extracted honey, having a queen-excluding honey-board between the upper story and brood-chamber. Remove two frames from the upper story of such a colony, and in their place put two frames of unsealed brood. The object in doing this is to draw a large force of nurse-bees above to attend to the queen-cells. Two days later remove another frame from the upper story, spread the two frames of brood apart, and place a prepared frame between them. By "prepared frame" is meant a frame containing a number of queen-cell cups, each supplied with a little royal jelly and a larva about one day old. About 15 cells are as many as a colony should be allowed to build at one time.

To describe the manner of making the cell-cups and grafting them would make this essay too long for this oc-

casion; therefore, I must refer you to Doolittle's "Scientific Queen-Rearing" for this information.

In order to improve our stock for honey-gathering we must keep a record each season of our best colonies, and rear queens from the stock giving the best results. Have them crossed as far as possible with drones not akin, of other good stock. This is accomplished by stocking our apiary with drones not related to our breeding-queens. This is very important, and must not be overlooked if we desire to improve our stock.—Pendletonian (Ky.).

[Doolittle's "Scientific Queen-Rearing," referred to by Mr. Moore, is a cloth-bound book which we send postpaid for \$1.00; or will club it with the American Bee Journal for one year—both for \$1.60, provided all arrearages on subscriptions are paid.—EDITOR.]



CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, Marengo, Ill.

(The Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal office, or to Dr. Miller direct, when he will answer them here. Please do not ask the Doctor to send answers by mail.—EDITOR.)

#### Management with Little Attention.

We are going to move some of our bees about 25 miles from here, and can not visit them oftener than once every week or 10 days. We thought of putting on an extracting-super, and a comb-honey super on that. Then cage the queen and put on entrance-guards. Is this as good a plan as we can adopt?

MISSOURI.

ANSWER.—Try some of them this way: Give abundant room for the queen to lay, abundance of surplus room, and abundant ventilation by having full entrance to each story, and omit caging and entrance-guard.

#### Feeder Flows Too Fast.

I have two Boardman feeders. I use three parts water and four parts sugar (best granulated) by measure. The syrup flows out too fast even for a strong colony of bees to take it. What is the cause and how is it managed?

IOWA.

ANSWER.—Without seeing your feeders in place it is hard to say just what is the trouble. With a Boardman feeder there ought to be no trouble about the syrup flowing out too fast, even if it stood a year without any bees to take it. It is just possible that the glass jar is not down in its proper place in its receptacle. It may be that the hive is not level, for if too much out of level the syrup would flow till the can is emptied, even with no bees to take it.

#### Bees Under a Bathroom Floor.

I was taken with the bee-fever several months ago, and being ignorant on the subject of bees, I purchased "Langstroth on the Honey-Bee," which I read with much delight. What I want to know is, Why do the bees continue using a home under a floor, as shown in the enclosed clipping, when there is very much noise created above them? The books and bee-papers tell me that to make the bees go down from the supers when they are storing, beat a stick on top of the hive. Which is it that drives them down, the noise or the smoke? If it is the noise, then why is not this colony always disturbed?

MARYLAND.

ANSWER.—The clipping tells about a colony of bees that were lodged under the floor of Mr. Godman's bathroom, entering thru a hole in the wall, the bees furnishing a large amount of honey. The clipping continues

"The 'robbing' took place in the fall. A small amount was left for the bees to subsist upon. Mr. Godman thought

that it would be better to transfer the bees to a hive and take them out of the house. There were some disadvantages connected with their presence in the bathroom now, especially since the hole had been bored in the floor to get at them. The children could enter the room and take the bees up from their place by the double handful, and smooth them along their laps with their hands, but the workers of the colony were opposed to certain members of the family, and stung them whenever they got a chance. That was why Mr. Godman desired to put them in a hive in the yard.

"The hive was prepared, and an effort was made to induce the bees to enter it, but the effort was not a success. It brought about a schism in the colony, however, and nearly all the bees went away. During the blizzard last February the colony that remained beneath the bathroom perished."

Bee-keepers will be somewhat skeptical as to accepting all this as entirely reliable. Replying to your question, the smoke alone, or the noise and jarring alone, is enough to drive bees out of a hive. The jarring probably has more to do with it than the noise. But a little bit of smoke, or a little bit of jarring, would not dislodge them. The jarring must be heavy and continuous. You might walk all day over the top of a hive, and it would irritate the bees, but would not drive them out of the hive.

#### Old Queen with the First Swarm.

When a colony of bees casts the first swarm, is it the old queen or the young one that goes out? Some tell me it is the old one, some say the new.

CALIFORNIA.

ANSWER.—The old queen goes with the prime swarm, and young queens with after-swarms.

#### Queen-Excluders from Foul-Broody Colonies.

In reply to an inquirer I said such excluders should be boiled before being used on healthy colonies. Wm. McEvoy is much better authority upon foul brood than I, and he says in the Canadian Bee Journal:

"Queen-excluders that have been used on foul-broody colonies are perfectly safe to use on any hive of bees without any disinfecting. The larvae to become diseased must be fed in a corrupt cell or with diseased honey, and as queen-excluders have nothing on them for the bees to feed to the brood they can not disease any colony of bees."

#### Perhaps a Peculiarity of the Queen.

1. On April 24 I changed an outside empty frame to the center of the brood-nest of a colony, placing it between two frames of brood. May 1, I found upon examination that many of the cells contained two eggs, laid sometimes on one side and sometimes on the bottom of the cell; the colony was of fair strength and the brood apparently in good shape. The queen was two years old, and possibly three. I also found some cells uncapped containing larvae in the pupa state. These conditions were peculiar to this one comb only. I saw no others in a similar condition in the hive, and none in the apiary. Can you tell me the cause?

MICHIGAN.

ANSWER.—No, I don't know enough to give the cause. I have had two cases a little on the same line. An imported queen laid eggs on one side of the cell for a few days, and afterward laid normally. It is not impossible that a queen may have some temporary derangement that makes her do irregular work.

#### Transferring—Bees in a Brick House.

1. I have one colony in a box-hive from which I wish as much increase as possible. I also wish to transfer into a movable-frame hive. When should I transfer them?

2. I have a colony of bees in a brick house. Their entrance is under the window-sill on the second floor between the two walls. Would it pay to try to get them into a hive? If so, how could I get them, and when would be the best time? Would they swarm if left alone? SUBSCRIBER.

ANSWERS.—Wait till they swarm, and have the swarm in a new place, leaving the old hive on the old stand. After they swarm the second time (if they do swarm again), set the second swarm in a new place, and then transfer what is



left in the old hive. If they do not swarm again, transfer about two weeks after the prime swarm issues. But it may be better for you to be satisfied with only one swarm, setting the swarm on the old stand, the old colony beside it. A week later move the old hive to a new place, and 21 days after swarming transfer.

2. It depends on the value of the wall as compared with the value of the bees. The chances are in favor of their swarming, especially if strong and the season good. If you decide to get them out, you will have to take down enough of the wall to expose the combs, then cut them out, and take bees and all.

### Did the Onion Honey Kill Them?

1. Is onion honey injurious to bees?
2. Does onion honey become strong as it becomes old?
3. Is there any opium in onion honey?
4. If not, what killed the bees that had onion honey, as there was no disease that I could find?

The point I wish to know is, did the honey kill them, or did some man kill them? They were threatened by a very bad man. My bees never did any harm to any one. They were a very gentle strain of Italians, 150 feet from the street, in good hives with movable-frames. OHIO.

ANSWERS.—1. I did not suppose it was, from the fact that I have read of its being gathered, but never heard of any harm from it.

2. Instead of the honey becoming stronger, I have read that it loses some of its rank onion taste with age, becoming milder.

3. I think not.

4. I am at a loss to say. Possibly some honey-dew was present. Possibly the bees may have had access to something poisonous.

### Questions on Various "Styles" of Bees.

As I have what is called the golden Italian bees, I was thinking of introducing new blood, so I ask these questions:

1. Are the golden and the 5-banded the same?
2. Are the leather-colored and the 3-banded the same?
3. Are the Cyprians in any way superior to the Italians?
4. Are the Cyprians in any way related to the golden Italians?
5. Would you advise introducing a Cyprian queen in a yard of Italian bees?
6. Would the cross be any better than new blood of the Italian?

ANSWER.—1. I believe they are the same.

2. Not necessarily so. What are considered as pure Italians coming from Italy have 3 bands, but all are not leather-colored; some are lighter.

3. They have the reputation of excelling the Italians as stingers. Whether they have any extra vigor in working to correspond, I do not know.

4. No, no more than they are to all Italians, which they so much resemble in appearance.

5. I think I should prefer Italian, but others might think differently.

6. That question can hardly be answered by a straight yes or no. You might strike a combination that would give better results than some Italians, and you might strike something worse. Taken in general, you may get better results from the Italian.

### Wants No "Shortening" in Pie.

When Editor York began to spell it *thru* instead of *through*, several cold chills ran up and down my spinal column. Since then I have gotten reconciled to the change, and am inclined to the belief that I am beginning to like it.

But I notice with alarm that he quotes (I thought) approvingly what somebody says about dropping *all* of the silent letters in the English language. I want you to join me in protesting against the dropping out of the *e* in *pie*. How is any one to know whether printer's *pi* or apple-pie is under consideration? The change is too suggestive of vanishing visions of those peach and pumpkin and mince and custard things which tickled the palates and destroyed the digestion of so many in Yankeeland and elsewhere. I do not eat pie any more, but in behalf of a great number of prospective dyspeptics who persist in the use of these pleas-

ing abominations, I hope you will join me in the attempt to persuade Mr. York not to eliminate the *e* from *pie*.

EDWIN BEVINS.

ANSWER.—Decidedly yes, Mr. Bevins, we must stand up for our rights, and draw the line at *pi*. I'd stand a good deal from Editor York, but I'm not ready to submit to have cold lead crammed down my throat in place of that toothsome combination between crusts ending with an *e*.

### Eggs of a Virgin Queen.

Are the eggs from a virgin queen fertile, and will they hatch?

NEW YORK.

ANSWER.—The eggs of a virgin queen are not fertilized, but they will hatch, producing only drones. They are exactly the same as the eggs that a good laying queen lays in drone-cells.

**York's Honey Calendar for 1900** is a 16-page pamphlet especially gotten up to create a demand for honey among should-be consumers. The forepart was written by Dr. C. C. Miller, and is devoted to general information concerning honey. The latter part consists of recipes for use in cooking and as a medicine. It will be found to be a very effective helper in working up a home market for honey. We furnish them, postpaid, at these prices: A sample free; 25 copies for 30 cents; 50 for 50 cents; 100 for 90 cents; 250 for \$2.00; 500 for \$3.50. For 25 cents extra we will print your name and address on the front page, when ordering 100 or more copies at these prices.

**Belgian Hare Breeding** is the title of a pamphlet just published, containing 10 chapters on "Breeding the Belgian Hare." Price, 25 cents, postpaid. It covers the subjects of Breeding, Feeding, Houses and Hutches, Diseases, Methods of Serving for the Table, etc. It is a practical and helpful treatise for the amateur breeder. (See Prof. Cook's article on page 292.) For sale at the office of the American Bee Journal. For \$1.10 we will send the Bee Journal for a year and the 32-page pamphlet on "Belgian Hare Breeding."

"**The Hum of the Bees in the Apple-Tree Bloom**" is the name of the new bee-keeper's song—words by Hon. Eugene Secor and music by Dr. C. C. Miller. This is thought by some to be the best bee-song yet written by Mr. Secor and Dr. Miller. It is, indeed, a "hummer." We can furnish a single copy of it postpaid, for 10 cents, or 3 copies for 25 cents. Or, we will mail a half-dozen copies of it for sending us *one new* yearly subscription to the American Bee Journal at \$1.00.

**Dr. Miller's Honey-Queens** are offered as premiums, on another page, for sending us new subscribers to the American Bee Journal. The offer is limited to our present regular subscribers, and the queens are to be mailed in rotation, beginning about June 1st, so first come first served. Look up a new subscriber, send in his name with \$1.00, and we will enter your order for a Dr. Miller Honey-Queen.

**Our Wood Binder** (or Holder) is made to take all the copies of the American Bee Journal for a year. It is sent by mail for 20 cents. Full directions accompany. The Bee Journals can be inserted as soon as they are received, and thus preserved for future reference. Upon receipt of \$1.00 for your Bee Journal subscription a *full year in advance*, we will mail you a Wood Binder free—if you will mention it.

**The American Fruit and Vegetable Journal** is just what its name indicates. Tells all about growing fruits and vegetables. It is a fine monthly, at 50 cents a year. We can mail you a free sample copy of it, if you ask for it. We club it with the American Bee Journal—both papers one year for \$1.10.

**Queenie Jeanette** is the title of a pretty song in sheet music size, written by J. C. Wallenmeyer, a musical bee-keeper. The regular price is 40 cents, but to close out the copies we have left, we will mail them at 20 cents each, as long as they last. Better order at once, if you want a copy of this song.



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NOTE—The American Bee Journal adopts the Orthography of the following Rule, recommended by the joint action of the American Philological Association and the Philological Society of England:—Change "d" or "ed" final to "t" when so pronounced, except when the "e" affects a preceding sound. Also some other changes are used.

**Shipping Bee-Supplies Promptly.**—It seems from statements made by several of the larger bee-supply manufacturers, that they are not having much trouble so far this year about filling orders promptly. Doubtless there is scarcely a dealer who would from choice delay filling orders. We believe that almost invariably the present-day bee-supply dealers are prompt and reliable.

It doesn't take long to find out that delays and anything but up-to-date methods must inevitably bring on failures in these days. Buyers are fast learning whom they can trust, and who will serve them best. It is well that it is so. Honorable and conscientious dealing will always prove to be the best in the long run. Careless and dishonest methods will soon bring on heart-failure and quick dissolution to any business, as properly should be the case.

**Bran for Bees.**—Mr. A. I. Root, in Gleanings in Bee-Culture, tells in the following how the bees "go for" bran as a substitute for pollen:

"Our neighbor across the way, a grain-dealer, got in a carload of bran in bulk; and on this beautiful 16th day of April they began shoveling it up to store it in their warehouse. But the bees from our apiary just across the way, in consequence of the cold March and April so far, were lacking in pollen, and they pitch into the bran with such vim that the men who were shoveling beat a retreat. Why,

it made one think of a leaky carload of honey, only the bees seemed to be very happy and civil in their rejoicing over their big find of pollen. I got one of our biggest wheelbarrows, loaded it up with bran, and wheeled it out into the apiary as a 'counter-irritant'; I think that is what the doctors call it, don't they? Well, just now (about three in the afternoon) it makes me feel like old times to hear the bees humming and rejoicing over that big wheelbarrow full of bran. I tipped it up edgewise so the coarser particles would run down over the side, and that seems to be just the thing to suit them."

**Comparative Weight of Sections.**—Altho the editor of Gleanings in Bee-Culture is by no means a figure-head, he seems to have quite a head for figures, and gives a bewildering array of figures with regard to the weight of sections of different sizes. In one lot of honey the average weight of  $4\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{8}$  bee-way sections was 14.94 ounces; of  $4\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  plain, 13.83 ounces. A  $4\frac{1}{4}$  plain by  $1\frac{1}{8}$  holds a plump pound. The  $4 \times 5$  is supposed to run more nearly a pound than any section on the market. A whole lot of figures is given, showing the cubical contents of the sections of different sizes, but the actual amount of honey is by no means always in the same proportion.

**Granulated Honey** is having much said in its favor nowadays. G. M. Doolittle says in the American Bee-Keeper:

"If the bee-keepers of the land had tried as hard to educate consumers regarding the merits of granulated honey as they did to put only liquid honey before the public, the call for liquid honey would have been changed to that of granulated honey long ago. My customers, for the past five years, have all called for the granulated article, nearly all of them preferring to use it that way, while the convenience of carrying it home in a paper sack, or a box lined with paper, with no leaking or daubing of things with liquid honey, adds to the popularity of honey in its granulated form."

**Management in the Extracting-Season.**—In the discussion of this topic at the Toronto convention (reported in the Canadian Bee Journal), the point was made that in locations where the weather turned cool at the close of the honey season it was better to extract before the bees began to shrink away from the upper combs, for this would allow the honey to become thin. Care should be taken to keep white clover and linden honey separate, especially if the honey is to be shipped to England. Bees will go to work more promptly upon combs that have just been extracted than they will on dry combs. Where there is danger of foul brood in some colonies, it is safer to give back to each colony its own combs after they are extracted, but it takes more time. Some did not find it necessary to have excluders under extracting-supers on established colonies.

**Young Queens to Prevent Swarming.**—It is a common belief that a colony with a queen of the current year's rearing will not swarm. The belief has been held for many years, and for a long time was left undisputed. Then when Italians came upon the field, it was said that the rule did not always hold true with them, but was still valid with blacks. Possibly there is not so much difference as supposed between the two kinds of bees, the difference in results being rather owing to treatment than to difference in bees. As a matter of fact, when other conditions are all favorable for swarming, the introduction of a young queen will not prevent swarming, even if she has been laying only a day or two. But when a young queen is not introduced, but reared in the hive, then it may be expected to prevent swarming. Gravenhorst gave this as reliable, and said he could not explain why there should be the difference between a queen introduced and one reared in the hive. In the American Bee-Keeper G. M. Doolittle gives what is



probably the true reason. When a queen is reared in the hive there is a break in the laying that throws the colony out of its normal condition as to eggs and brood, resulting in no swarming. But he says this break, to be effective, must come not earlier than 10 to 15 days before the main honey harvest begins. And with this break of 10 to 20 days duration, even an old queen will not swarm.

#### Do Not Keep Virgin Queens Away from the Bees.—

G. M. Doolittle thinks that where the right temperature is maintained it may do to keep queen-cells away from bees, but he is quite sure it is bad to keep virgin queens at any time without the immediate touch of worker-bees. He says in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*:

"About 15 years ago I had a mania for introducing old virgin queens to nuclei, so that I might be able to send off queens to the trade much faster than by the cell plan, giving one of these old virgins to a nucleus at the same time that I took a laying queen away. Then I also sent virgin queens to other parties to have them mated and returned to me, and out of scores tried for the different purposes I never had one *single* queen thus treated live two years, while very many of my other queens, which were in immediate touch with the bees at all times, live to be four and five years old. At that time I had 'growls' from my customers regarding the short lives of some of the queens purchased of me; but since I adopted the motto of 'No queens but what the bees cared for *all* the time,' I have had no complaints of inferior queens in any respect."

**Improving the Stock of Bees** is a matter that seems to have more attention given to it lately than ever before. J. B. Hall thinks it worth while to take such pains in selecting and breeding as to make his queens cost a good deal. His plan is given in the *Canadian Bee Journal* as follows:

"I have a record slate on every hive; I have the age of the queen, when she was clipped, and when I saw her last. I use the letters A, B, C—C is killed at once; B is killed when I can do so profitably; A we don't breed from; A 1, we do sometimes; A I X we breed from; A I X X we mark to rear queens from the next year. I could not rear them to sell that way unless I got 2 or 3 dollars each for them."

**Do Bee-Keepers Want Adulteration to Stop?**—Commenting upon the 12 carloads of adulterated honey turned out in 60 days, that was reported in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*, the *American Bee-Keeper* says:

"The injustice to honest producers resulting from such wholesale adulteration must be apparent to all, as it must also be that our plain duty is to *stop it*. It is not as if we had no representative organization to deal with such problems; in that case the matter would indeed be serious. We may congratulate ourselves on having an efficient association at this time; and its board and executive staff being composed of men eminently qualified to guard our interests with vigilance and tact, should be a source of satisfaction and confidence. The case rests with the producers themselves. Shall we exterminate the offenders and reap the full rewards of our labor, or shall we indifferently permit the very foundation of our industry to be stealthily withdrawn by those engaged in the illegitimate practice of adulteration?"

**Bingham's Expansive Hive.**—T. F. Bingham, of smoker fame, describes in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture* the hive he has been using for many years, as follows:

"This is composed of 7 tight-end frames clamped or lashed together with a wire link or loop which is tightened by a stick which spreads the link, thereby shortening it so as to hold firmly the movable sides against the frames, rendering the whole practically a box which rests on a loose bottom-board having on either of its two edges a square strip  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch by 24. These strips leave an entrance the length of the sides of the hive. Above this hive is a clamp (or super) holding 18 one-pound sections.

"That is all there is of the hive. If not large enough, any number of just such hives and clamps of sections may be set under or over it to suit conditions."

## The Weekly Budget

C. B. BANKSTON, of Rockdale, Tex., judging from several reports we have received, is accepting money for queens which he does not send. When written to afterwards it seems he makes no reply. So far as we have noticed he is not advertising in any of the bee-papers this year, but has advertised in other years. We give this word of caution so that our readers may be careful not to send him any orders unless they know that he is in business and doing all right.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE BOY WITH THE SPADE.

No weight of ages bows him down,  
That barefoot boy with fingers brown.  
There's nothing empty in his face,  
No burdens of the human race  
Are on his back, nor is he dead  
To joy or sorrow, hope or dread,  
For he can grieve, and he can hope,  
Can shrink with all his soul from soap.

No brother to the ox is he,  
He's second cousin to the bee,  
He loosens and lets down his jaw—  
And brings it up—his gum to "chaw."  
There's naught but sweat upon his brow,  
'Tis slanted somewhat forward now.  
His eyes are bright with eager light,  
He's working with an appetite.

Ah, no! That boy is not afraid  
To wield with all his strength his spade!  
Nor has he any spite at fate—  
He's digging angleworms for bait!

—Chicago Tribune.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DON'T CROWD YOUR ADVERTISING SPACE.**—There should be plenty of white space in an advertisement, and that white space should be well distributed and clean looking. Don't let your advertisement look choked for breathing-room. Ventilation in an advertisement suggests healthfulness and prosperity, a liberal-mindedness that it will be a pleasure to meet in a business way. An advertisement which looks as tho its owner was afraid some little quarter of an inch of space would be paid for without being utilized puts the prospective customer in an unconscious attitude of dealing with a close-fisted merchant.—*Profitable Advertising*.



**A Furnace in a Bee-Cellar** is all right, according to J. B. Hall in the *Canadian Bee Journal*, if there is a brick wall between the furnace and the room containing the bees.

**"A Solar Wax-Extractor With Bottom Heat** is no new thing in California. E. H. Schaeffle has devised and uses an extractor that uses solar heat on the bottom thru reflection."—J. H. Martin, in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*.

**To Introduce a Valuable Queen**, W. B. Ranson gives the following in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*:

"Take a large Benton cage and provision it, and put the queen in it all alone. Take out the queen from the colony to be requeened, and at the same time pick off from the combs 12 or 15 young bees just hatched; put them in a cage; wait a moment for these babies to crawl over the queen and scent her with their damp feet and wings. Now pick off another lot, a little older, and put them in, and in another minute pick off a dozen still older, say those old enough to

shed their veils. Now close up the hive for an hour. Take the cage with the queen and 40 or 50 bees, and notice them carefully; and if the older bees should attack her, smoke them; but they would hardly do that. In a few minutes you will find the oldest bees caressing the queen, having accepted her in the cage. Now give them to the colony to eat out the candy and liberate the queen; and if the work was properly done, the queen is perfectly safe. It seems that the damp feet and wings of the very young bees in crawling over the queen cause the older bees to accept her in the cage; and once they commence to caress her in the cage she is safe. I introduce virgin queens in this way without difficulty."

**Bees on Shares in California.**—J. H. Martin says in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*:

"So far as my observation and experience go in this State, the owner of bees does not allow the party of the second part to have any of the increase. The plan usually followed, and one that seems to be the most satisfactory to all concerned, is for the owner to furnish the bees, hives for increase, and receptacles for his share of the honey. The party of the second part has half of the honey and wax; provides receptacles for his portion of the honey, and leaves enough honey in the hives at the close of the season for the sustenance of the bees. As both parties are after the most profit possible in the amount of honey, it is for the interest of both to prevent swarming as far as possible; and where the extractor is used the swarms are few. The equal division of the products is easily accomplished, and there is seldom disagreement."

**The Four Classes of Soiled Sections.**—Dr. Miller has already spoken of the confusion that seems to exist over the question of travel-stained, soiled, yellow, greasy or water-soak sections. All of these terms have often been confounded for one and the same thing. There are really 4 classes of discolored sections, each due to a distinct and separate cause. First, there is what is called the real travel-stained section. As its name indicates, the cappings are soiled because the bees have gone over the surfaces of the cappings with their dirty feet.

Then there is another lot that are stained because the boxes are capt over in the vicinity of old comb, dirt or propolis. If the faces of such sections are examined carefully it will be found that the stain or discoloration goes *clear thru*. These discolorations are due to the fact that the bees take up pieces of old black wax, propolis, or anything that will answer as a substitute or filler for pure wax. I have seen the cappings of some sections of this sort filled with bits of old rope, lint from newspapers, small hard chunks of propolis, fine slivers of wood—anything and everything

that is right handy. Sections of this class often look like those of the first class, hence the frequent confusion.

In the third class are those with soiled cappings, due to pollen dust or possibly a thin layer of propolis stain. All such may be bleached white, but the other two are hopelessly beyond remedy. All white honey with yellow cappings is apt to be in the third class.

The fourth and last class takes in all those that are called "greasy" or "water-soak," having cappings that lie on the honey. The covering to each cell is more or less transparent, or water-soak—the transparent part being half-moon shaped, or in the form of a ring encircling a white nucleus center that is not greasy or transparent. The general surface of such sections is mottled with little transparent half-moons or circles over many of the cells.

If the reader will look over the unsold odds and ends of the grocer's he will be able to find samples of all these classes, and it is a good time of the year to find them, as they are the last to sell.—Editorial in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*.

**To Get Candied Honey Out of Combs,** Mrs. J. M. McLean gives the following in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*:

"I uncapt some, and then filling a large tub with cold water, in which I put about a quart of vinegar, I filled it with combs, put a weight on to hold them down, and left them 24 hours, when they came out as clean as ever—no honey, no pollen. They were a little *sticky*, but I hung them in some empty hives, and the bees soon cleaned them up. I used the one tub of water for all the combs. I cleaned about 150, and then put the honey and water into the vinegar-barrel."

**Management of Swarms to Prevent Increase.**—QUESTION: What is the best method of handling swarms so as not to increase the number of colonies?

Mr. Hall—In 1883 we took 25,000 pounds of comb honey on that principle. We had more swarms that year than ever we had. In one apiary we had 80 colonies, and we increased to 84; in another, 120 colonies and increased to 128. We had an abundance of swarms; we hived every swarm on half combs and half foundation, full sheets of foundation, (4 sheets to the pound,) placing the old colonies alongside the new swarms; 6 or 7 days after we shook all the young bees that had hatched in that time into or in front of the swarm, making it very strong, and took the brood away and hived a swarm on it. There were no eggs and little or no uncapt larvæ. Every swarm of bees we put upon those combs staid and went right to work, we carried that out thruout the season. We started with 200 colonies of bees and we finisht with 212, and we took 25,000 pounds of honey.—Canadian Bee Journal.

**ARE YOU FULL OF GINGER?** If you want health and vigor, good appetite and sound sleep, take **LAXATIVE NERVO-**

**VITAL TABLETS**, the quick and safe cure for Constipation, Nervous Dyspepsia, Insomnia, Nervous Affections, the "Blues" and all attendant evils. It aids digestion, purifies the blood, strengthens the nerves, improves the appetite, induces sweet sleep, tones up the whole system and makes you a new creature. It not only makes you feel well, it makes you *really* well. It gives you that vim and

**LAXATIVE**

vigor which makes life worth living.

**NERVO-VITAL TABLETS**

It contains no narcotics nor bromides nor other injurious drugs. We give the formula with every box. You know exactly what you are taking. Originally put up for physicians' use. Ask your druggist for a **FREE SAMPLE**. If he hasn't it, don't take a substitute, but send us a stamp for our book on "Health" and we will send you a free sample, sufficient for you to try it and test its merits to your own satisfaction. *Isn't it worth trying free?* It positively cures. Price 10c and 25c per box. Don't delay sending.

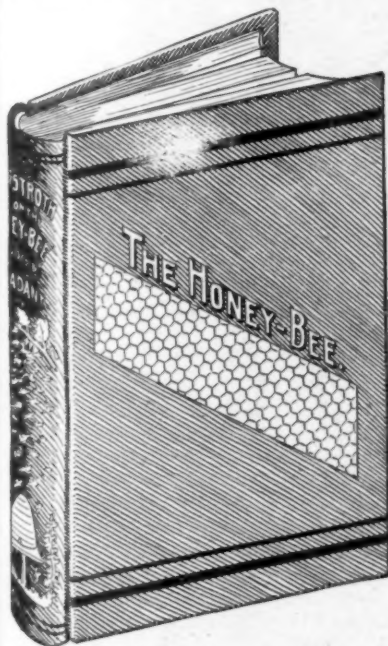
**The Modern Remedy Co., Kewanee, Ill.**



# Langstroth on... The Honey-Bee

Revised by Dadant—1899 Edition.

This is one of the standard books on bee-culture, and ought to be in the library of every bee-keeper. It is bound substantially in cloth, and contains over 500 pages, being revised by those large, practical bee-keepers, so well-known to all the readers of the Ameri-



can Bee Journal—Chas. Dadant & Son. Each subject is clearly and thoroly explained, so that by following the instructions of this book one cannot fail to be wonderfully helpt on the way to success with bees.

The book we mail for \$1.25, or club it with the American Bee Journal for one year—both for \$1.75; or, we will mail it as a premium for sending us **THREE NEW** subscribers to the Bee Journal for one year, with \$3.00.

This is a splendid chance to get a grand bee-book for a very little money or work.

## Rocky Mountain Bee-Plant Seed!

(*Cleome integrifolia*.)

...FREE AS A PREMIUM...

The ABC of Bee-Culture says of it: "This is a beautiful plant for the flower-garden, to say nothing of the honey it produces. It grows from two to three feet in height, and bears large clusters of bright pink flowers. It grows naturally on the Rocky Mountains, and in Colorado, where it is said to furnish large quantities of honey."

We have a few pounds of this *Cleome* seed, and offer to mail a ¼-pound package as a premium for sending us **ONE NEW** subscriber to the American Bee Journal, with \$1.00; or ¼ pound by mail for 40 cents.

**GEORGE W. YORK & CO.**

118 Michigan St., CHICAGO, ILL.

## GENERAL ITEMS

### Bees Doing Splendidly.

The bees came thru in fine shape last winter, and as we are now in the midst of fruit-bloom they are doing splendidly. After selling some I still have 35 colonies—about as many as a man past 80 years of age can take care of.

J. KENOYER.

Whitman Co., Wash., May 7.

### Blocking the Brood-Chamber with Honey.

I was compelled to transfer a colony in an old 12-frame no-spacing hive this spring to an up-to-date hive, and this was done five weeks after they swarmed (on account of rainy weather I could do it no sooner), and to my surprise every cell was jam full of honey and sealed, and the bees were constructing one-sided combs on each side of the hive, which were partly filled with honey. There were a great many bees in this hive. JAY S. BROWN.

Bradford Co., Fla., May 5.

### Bees in Fine Condition.

My few colonies are in fine condition, the only one I lost being queenless. I found it was queenless when I returned from St. Louis last fall, but it was too late to help it then. I had introduced a queen from an Eastern breeder when I went away in July, and it seems she didn't suit them.

MRS. N. L. STOW.

Cook Co., Ill., May 11.

### Bees Doing Well.

My bees are all doing well. One colony is at work in the second story. I lost one colony this spring, but all the rest wintered well, and are in fine condition.

I have very many visitors to my yard from the city and county, and have been working them to form a local bee-keepers' association. The bees are my best friends, and all my spare time is spent among them.

DANA H. GRAHAM.

Lancaster Co., Pa.

### Early Honey-Storing, Etc.

Bees are just booming in this locality. I have several colonies that have stored from 20 to 30 pounds each of willow honey in supers. At one of my out-apiaries a week ago to-day I noticed two colonies from which there seemed to be scarcely any bees flying, and I thought they must be weak, but on examination I found that their combs were all full of bees and honey, and they were loafing and building queen-cells. I gave one of them another story of empty combs, and the other a shallow extracting-super with foundation. When I went back to-day I found that the one with the shallow extracting-super had the foundation all drawn out, and that both of them were full of eggs and honey. I never before had bees store any honey in the supers in

Sharples Cream Separators: Profitable Dairying

## DITTMER'S FOUNDATION

Wholesale and Retail

This foundation is made by an absolutely non-dipping process, thereby producing a perfectly clear and pliable foundation that retains the odor and color of beeswax, and is free from dirt.

Working wax into foundation for cash, a specialty. Write for samples and prices.

A full line of Supplies at the very lowest prices, and in any quantity. Best quality and prompt shipment. Send for large, illustrated catalog.

GUS. DITTMER, Augusta, Wis.

Beeswax Wanted.

Please mention Bee Journal when writing.



**HATCH CHICKENS BY STEAM**—with the simple, perfect, self-regulating **EXCELSIOR INCUBATOR**. Thousands in successful operation. Lowest priced lat-class hatchery made. **Geo. H. Stahl,** 114 to 122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.

Circulars free. Send 6c. for illus. Catalog.

44A26t Please mention the Bee Journal.

**100** COLONIES OF ITALIAN AND CARNIOLAN BEES FOR SALE: all in new movable-frame hives. Send stamp for price-list. **WM. J. HEALY,** 18A5t MINERAL POINT, Iowa Co., Wis. Please mention Bee Journal when writing.

## PATENT WIRED COMB FOUNDATION

Has no Sag in Brood-Frames.

Thin Flat-Bottom Foundation

Has no Fishbone in the Surplus

Honey.

Being the cleanest is usually workt the quickest of any foundation made.

**J. A. VAN DEUSEN,**

Sole Manufacturer,

Sprout Brook, Montgomery Co., N.Y.

**BEE-SUPPLIES!**

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POUNDER'S HONEY-JARS and everything used by bee-keepers. Prompt Service—low freight rate. Catalog free. **WALTER S. POWDER,** 512 Mass. Ave., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Please mention Bee Journal when writing.

IF YOU WANT THE

## BEE-BOOK

That covers the whole Apicultural Field more completely than any other publisht, send \$1.25 to Prof. A. J. Cook, Claremont, Calif., for his

## Bee-Keepers' Guide.

Liberal Discounts to the Trade.

Here we are to the front for 1900 with the NEW

## CHAMPION CHAFF-HIVE,

a comfortable home for the bees in summer and winter. We also carry a complete line of other SUPPLIES.

Catalog free. **R. H. SCHMIDT & CO.** Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

Please mention Bee Journal when writing.

## 1860 Adel Queens 1900

Practically non-swarming and non-stinging; cap honey snow-white and solid; 5-banded bees and great workers. Tested Queens, each, \$1.00. No foul brood, pickled brood, black brood, nor any other disease in my apiary. 40th annual catalog giving description of bees, now ready.

20Atr **HENRY ALLEY,** Wenham, Mass.

Please mention Bee Journal when writing.

**BEE-KEEPERS:** If you want your supplies to arrive at your railroad station in neat and perfect condition, free from dirt and damage ordinarily resulting from railroad handling; and if you want your orders filled promptly with the very finest goods in the market, send to

## G. B. Lewis Co., Watertown, Wis.

— U. S. A. —

THOUSANDS OF BEE-HIVES, MILLIONS OF SECTIONS READY FOR PROMPT SHIPMENT.

Lewis Foundation Fasteners are selling like hot-cakes. Customers who have received one of these new machines pronounce it the finest, and write us that it is worth more than our price, which is only **ONE DOLLAR**, without lamp.

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## BUGGIES,

Surreys, Stanhopes, Phaetons, Driving Wagons and Spring Wagons, Light and Heavy Harness, Sold Direct to the User by the Maker at Wholesale Prices.

Perfect in every detail of material, workmanship and finish. Any style vehicle sent anywhere for examination before purchase. Wherever you live you can buy of us and **save money**. We make all the vehicles we advertise. Large **free book** tells our plan in detail. Send for it.

**EDWARD W. WALKER CARRIAGE CO., 50 Eighth St., Goshen Ind.**

Please mention Bee Journal when writing.

## The Novelty Pocket-Knife.

Your Name and Address on one side—Three Bees on the other side.



[THIS CUT IS THE FULL SIZE OF THE KNIFE.]

**Your Name on the Knife.**—When ordering, be sure to say just what name and address you wish put on the Knife.

**The Novelty Knife** is indeed a novelty. The novelty lies in the handle. It is made beautifully of indestructible celluloid, which is as transparent as glass. Underneath the celluloid, on one side of the handle is placed the name and residence of the subscriber, and on the other side pictures of a Queen, Drone, and Worker, as shown here.

**The Material** entering into this celebrated knife is of the very best quality; the blades are hand-forged out of the very finest English razor-steel, and we warrant every blade. The bolsters are made of German silver, and will never rust or corrode. The rivets are hardened German silver wire; the linings are plate brass; the back springs of Sheffield spring-steel, and the finish of the handle as described above. It will last a last-time, with proper usage.

**Why Own the Novelty Knife?** In case a good knife is lost, the chances are the owner will never recover it; but if the "Novelty" is lost, having name and address of owner, the finder will return it; otherwise to try to destroy the name and address, would destroy the knife. If traveling, and you meet with a serious accident, and are so fortunate as to have one of the "Novelties," your POCKET-KNIFE will serve as an identifier; and in case of death, your relatives will at once be notified of the accident.

How appropriate this knife is for a present! What more lasting memento could a mother give to a son, a wife to a husband, a sister to a brother, or a lady to a gentleman, the knife having the name of the recipient on one side?

The accompanying cut gives a faint idea, but cannot fully convey an exact representation of this beautiful knife, as the "Novelty" must be seen to be appreciated.

**How to Get this Valuable Knife.**—We send it postpaid for \$1.10, or give it as a Premium to the one sending us THREE NEW SUBSCRIBERS to the Bee Journal (with \$3.00.) We will club the Novelty Knife and the Bee Journal for one year, both for \$1.90.

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Please allow about two weeks for your knife order to be filled.

## Marshfield Manufacturing Company.

Our specialty is making SECTIONS and they are the best in the market. Wisconsin BASSWOOD is the right kind for them. We have a full line of BEE-SUPPLIES. Write for free illustrated catalog and price-list.

**MARSHFIELD MANUFACTURING CO., Marshfield, Wis.**

**Please Mention the Bee Journal when writing Advertisers.**

April. I also found something else that I never saw before, and would like to know if any one can tell the cause of it:

On opening one hive I saw hundreds of slick, shiny, young bees that could not fly, on top of the frames, as I have seen them dragging out of the hive in the spring when taken out of the cellar. On examination I found that they were queenless, with nothing but a little drone-brood in the hive. Oh, yes, I know Mr. Doolittle says it does not pay to re-queen, as nine times out of ten the queen will be superseded before she becomes unprofitable. That must be another case of location, as in this part of the country nine times out of ten she will not. H. J. CHAPMAN.

Dallas Co., Iowa, May 2.

### Bad Weather for Bees.

The weather is bad. The temperature was at 74 degrees for a few hours on May 9; inside of an hour it fell 23 degrees, and the next morning the ground froze hard. This was the first warm spell in May. This weather has kept colonies reduced, as the bees would go out for pollen and never return. HENRY ALLEY.

Essex Co., Mass., May 11.

### Common Parsnip.

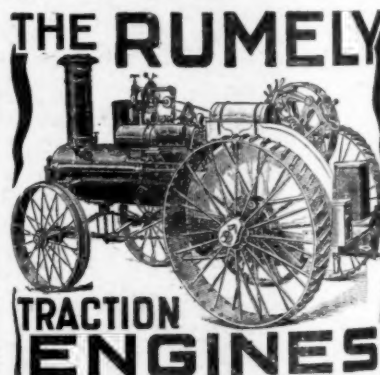
I send a plant which, in some years, furnishes quite a little honey. Some of my neighbors claim the plant is poisonous. What is its name? Is it poisonous to animal life?

Essex Co., N. J.,

K. MOR.

Prof. C. L. Walton, of the Lake View High School, Chicago, reports as follows on the above:

The plant in question is the common parsnip, *Pastinaca sativa*, and belongs to the poisonous parsley family. To this family belong the very poisonous cowbane, fool's parsley, poison hemlock, etc. The beautiful harbinger-of-spring and the aromatic rooted sweet



## THE RUMELY TRACTION ENGINES

Should you be seeking the best thing in traction, portable and semi-portable engines, we have what you want. They are ideal for threshing, drilling wells, cutting and grading feed, running saw mills, pumping water—anything requiring power. We have them

**From 8 to 20 H. P.**

They all excel as quick, easy steamers, require little fuel, remarkable strength, simplicity and durability. All boilers made of 60,000 lbs tensile strength steel plate. Fire boxes surrounded with water. Make also Threshers, Horse Powers and Saw Mills. All fully described in our illustrated catalogue. Ask for it. Mailed free.

**M. RUMELY CO., A PORTE, IND.**

Please mention Bee Journal when writing



cicely are also members of this same family.

I believe the common parsnip is not considered poisonous to any considerable extent, but rather quite harmless. The natural instinct of animals is usually sufficient to prevent disastrous results from eating poisonous weeds too freely.

Bees may visit a very poisonous plant with impunity, and bear away the precious nectar, while the same quantity of the sap of the plant would prove highly injurious.

#### Western Honey Crop for 1900.

The honey crop of Utah will not be up to the average. There will not be more than five counties that will ship out honey this year. About two-thirds of an average crop will be the limit. Many bees died last year, and the re-

**SPRAYING**  
with our new patent  
**KEROSENE SPRAYERS**  
is simple indeed. Kerosene Emulsion made while pumping. 12 varieties sprayers. Bordeaux and Vermorel Nuclei, the World's Best.  
**THE DEMING CO. Salem, O.**  
Western Agents, Henton & Hubbell, Chicago. Catalog, ten cents free.  
Please mention Bee Journal when writing.



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We are distributors for ROOT'S GOODS AT THEIR PRICES for southern Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, West Virginia, Kentucky, and the South.

**MUTH'S SQUARE GLASS HONEY-JARS LANGSTROTH BEE-HIVES, ETC.**

Lowest Freight Rates in the country. Send for Catalog.

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Successor to C. F. MUTH & SON,  
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## The Emerson Binder



This Emerson stiff-board Binder with cloth back for the American Bee Journal we mail for but 60 cents; or we will send it with the Bee Journal for one year—both for only \$1.40. It is a fine thing to preserve the copies of the Journal as fast as they are received. If you have this "Emerson" no further binding is necessary.

**GEORGE W YORK & CO.**  
118 Michigan Street, CHICAGO, ILL.

## A HANDY TOOL-HOLDER!

Sent by Express, for \$1.50; or with the Bee Journal one year—both for \$2.00.

Every Manufacturer, Miller, Carpenter, Cabinet Maker, Machinist, Wheelwright and Quarryman, Farmer, or any one using a grindstone, should have one of these Tool-Holders. One boy can do the work of two persons, and grind much faster, easier and with perfect accuracy. Will hold any kind of tool, from the smallest chisel to a draw shave or ax. Extra attachment for sharpening scythe blades included in the above price. The work is done without wetting the hands or soiling the clothes, as the water flows from the operator. It can be attached to any size stone for hand or steam power, is always ready for use, nothing to get out of order, and is absolutely worth 100 times its cost.

No farm is well-equipped unless it has a Tool-Holder. Pays for itself in a short time.

#### How to Use the Holder.

**DIRECTIONS.**—The Tool is fastened securely in the Holder by a set-screw and can be ground to any desired bevel by inserting the arm of the Holder into a higher or lower notch of the standard. While turning the crank with the right hand, the left rests on an steady the Holder; the Tool is moved to the right or left across the stone, or examined while grinding, as readily and in the same way as if held in the hands.

For grinding Round-Edge Tools, the holes in the standard are used instead of the notches.

Address, **GEORGE W. YORK & CO.,**

**CHICAGO, ILL.**



### Queens, Bees, Nuclei, Etc.



Having been 27 years rearing Queens for the trade on the best plans, will continue during 1900 to rear the BEST we can.

#### PRICES:

One Untested Queen ..... \$1.00  
One Tested Queen ..... 1.25  
One Select Tested Queen 1.50  
One Breeder ..... 3.00  
One Comb Nucleus ..... 1.80

Untested Queens ready in May. Tested, Selected, and Breeders, are from last season's rearing, ready now.

### COMB FOUNDATION FROM PURE, YELLOW WAX.

Send for price-list of Queens by the dozen; also sample of Foundation. **J. L. STRONG,**  
144tf CLARINDA, Page Co., IOWA.

Please mention Bee Journal when writing.



### YOU'D SLEEP BETTER

If you used Page Fence for your breachy stock.  
**PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., ADRIAN, MICH**  
Please mention Bee Journal when writing.

## The Mississippi Valley Democrat —AND— Journal of Agriculture, ST. LOUIS MO.

A wide-awake, practical Western paper for wide-awake, practical Western farmers, stock-raisers, poultry people and fruit-growers, to learn the science of breeding, feeding and management. Special departments for horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry and dairy. No farmer can afford to do without it.

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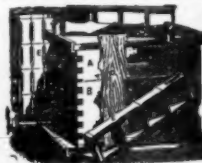
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sult will tell on this year's product. Bees have generally wintered well, and a superior grade of honey may be looked for. Idaho, Nevada, and Southern California will not have enough honey to supply their local markets; while Colorado will produce about the same amount as last year. April was severe on Colorado bee-keepers, and Utah had but little pleasant weather during that month. The stormy and windy, the weather was not as cold as is usual here.

The general outlook for the West is certainly not any more favorable than last year, for a fair honey crop.

**GEO. E. DUDLEY,**

Utah County, Utah, May 14.

## Honey-Flow Commenced.

Our honey-flow commenced about two weeks ago, and we have taken some honey. I am experimenting this season with the plain sections and fence separators. The honey in them is fancy and white.

The American Bee Journal's weekly visits are always welcome. The latest issue for May 10 is especially full of "good things."

**W. T. STEPHENSON,**

Massac Co., Ill., May 10.

## More About Belgian Hares.

I perused with great interest the article on Belgian hares by Prof. Cook, on page 292, and as a breeder of two years' experience, I agree in the main with the remarks therein made, with one exception, viz.: He says the Belgian hare is "bulky, fat, and logy." Now, I would like to know where Prof. Cook saw hares answering to that description. And is it a fact, as often hinted, that California is in the lead as far as numbers go? She is not in quality, for I have not seen any true Belgian

## Yellow Sweet Clover Seed

WE HAVE IT AT LAST!

We have finally succeeded in getting a small quantity of the seed of the **YELLOW** variety of sweet clover. This kind blooms from two to four weeks earlier than the common or white variety of sweet clover. It also grows much shorter, only about two feet in height. It is as much visited by the bees as the white, and usually comes into bloom ahead of white clover and basswood. We offer the seed as a premium

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We have been trying for years to secure this seed, and finally succeeded in getting it. It is new seed, gathered last season by an old personal friend of ours, so we know it is all right. But we have only a small supply. When nearly out we will mention it.

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hares that those terms, even in the broadest sense, could be applied to; in fact, quite to the contrary, they are slim, slick, and racy. Why, 20 points out of a possible 100 in the standard are applied to shape, the sections of which read as follows:

"SHAPE—Body long, thin, well tucked up flank, and well ribbed up; back slightly arched; loins well rounded; not choppy; head rather lengthy; muscular chest; tail straight, and all together possessing a racy appearance.

"SIZE (5 points)—About 8 pounds.

"CONDITION (5 points)—Not fat, but firm like a race-horse."

As regards logy, I would like to see a kinetoscope reproduction of Prof. Cook catching one in a building 12 feet square; it makes me smile to think of it; I've been there.

Some of the readers may think the high prices stated are far-fetched. I know of three hares in Prof. Cook's vicinity that could not be bought for \$500, and the owner of "Fashoda" refused an offer of \$1,000 for him.

I hope nothing of the above will give Prof. Cook offense, as I do not so intend it.

G. L. REIDER.  
Oneida Co., N. Y.

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of Northern Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan, there are hundreds of the most charming Summer Resorts awaiting the arrival of thousands of tourists from the South and East.

Among the list of near-by places are Fox Lake, Delavan, Lauderdale, Waukesha, Oconomowoc, Palmyra, The Dells at Kilbourn, Elkhart and Madison, while a little further off are Minocqua, Star Lake, Frontenac, White Bear, Minnetonka and Marquette on Lake Superior.

For pamphlet of "Summer Homes for 1900," or for copy of our handsomely illustrated summer book, entitled, "In the Lake Country," apply to nearest ticket agent or address with 4 cents in postage, Geo. H. Heafford, General Passenger Agent, Old Colony Building, Chicago, Ill. 20A3t

## 50c Italian Queens

reared from the best honey-gathering strains in America, under the most favorable conditions, by the Doolittle method. No in-breeding. Untested, 50 cents each; half dozen, \$3.00; one dozen, \$5.75.

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**Langstroth on the Honey-Bee**, revised by Dadant.—This classic in bee-culture has been entirely re-written, and is fully illustrated. It treats of everything relating to bees and bee-keeping. No apiarian library is complete without this standard work by Rev. L. L. Langstroth—the Father of American Bee-Culture. It has 520 pages, bound in cloth. Price, \$1.25.

**Bee-Keepers' Guide**, or Manual of the Apiary, by Prof. A. J. Cook, of the Michigan Agricultural College.—This book is not only instructive and helpful as a guide in bee-keeping, but is interesting and thoroughly practical and scientific. It contains a full delineation of the anatomy and physiology of bees. 460 pages, bound in cloth and fully illustrated. Price, \$1.25.

**Scientific Queen-Rearing**, as Practically Applied, by G. M. Doolittle.—A method by which the very best of queen-bees are reared in perfect accord with Nature's way. Bound in cloth and illustrated. Price, \$1.00.

**A B C of Bee-Culture**, by A. I. Root.—A cyclopedia of 400 pages, describing everything pertaining to the care of the honey-bees. Contains 300 engravings. It was written especially for beginners. Bound in cloth. Price, \$1.20.

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**Bienen-Cultur**, by Thos. G. Newman.—This is a German translation of the principal portion of the book called "Bees and Honey." 100-page pamphlet. Price, 25 cents.

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**Bee-Keeping for Beginners**, by Dr. J. P. H. Brown, of Georgia.—A practical and condensed treatise on the honey-bee, giving the best modes of management in order to secure the most profit. 110 pages, bound in paper. Price, 50 cts.

**Bee-Keeping for Profit**, by Dr. G. L. Tinker.—Revised and enlarged. It details the author's "new system, or how to get the largest yields of comb or extracted honey." 80 pages, illustrated. Price, 25 cents.

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**Golden Beauty Italian Queens**,  
Reared from imported mothers.

Untested, 50 cts.; 12 Untested, \$5.50; Tested, \$1.

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## HONEY AND BEESWAX

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

CHICAGO, April 19.—Market is well cleared of white comb honey; a little choice has sold recently at 16c, but dark and mixt goods are slow of sale. Extracted, white, 8@9c; amber, 7@8c; dark, 6@7c, according to quality and package. Beeswax in good demand at 28c.

R. A. BURNETT & Co.

CINCINNATI, March 3.—There is some demand for extracted honey from manufacturers at 7@7 1/2c for amber and Southern; clover, 8@8 1/2c. Comb honey is selling firm at 14@16 1/2c in a small way. Beeswax, 25@27c.

C. H. W. WEBER,

Successor to Chas. F. Muth & Son and A. Muth.

BOSTON, March 9.—Our honey market is showing some signs of lower prices, altho the stock on hand is not large. At the same time prices are so much higher than previous years that the trade have taken it very slowly and the results are that the holders are willing to range prices quite a little in order to move stock on hand. Prices range: Fancy white, 17@18c; No. 1, 15@16c; amber, 10@12c; buckwheat almost unsalable. Extracted, best white California, 8 1/2c.

BLAKE, SCOTT & LEE.

KANSAS CITY, May 9.—We quote: No. 1 white comb, 14@15c; No. 1 amber, 13@14c; No. 2 white and amber, 13@13 1/2c. Extracted, white, 7 1/2@8c; amber, 7c. Beeswax, 22@25c.

The receipts and stock of honey on hand are light; demand fair.

C. C. CLEMONS & Co.

DETROIT, Apr. 23.—Fancy white comb, 15@16c; No. 1, white, 14@15c; amber and dark, 10@12c. Demand and supply both limited. Extracted, white, 7@7 1/2c; amber and dark, 5@6c. Beeswax, 26@27c.

M. H. HUNT & SON.

BUFFALO, April 20.—For strictly fancy white one-pound comb honey we are getting 16@17c. Any grade sells high—10@15c, as to grade.

BATTERSON & Co.

NEW YORK, April 9.—Market is practically bare of comb honey of all description. Little lots arrive here and there and sell readily at from 10@11c for buckwheat and 12@15c for white, according to quality and style of package. The market is well supplied with extracted, which we think, however, will be moved before the new crop arrives. Beeswax is in good demand at from 27c to 29c per pound.

HILDRETH & SORLEEN.

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 25.—White comb, 11 1/2@12 1/2c; amber, 8@10c. Extracted, white, 7 1/2@8c. light amber, 7@7 1/2c; amber, 5@5 1/2c; Beeswax, 26@27c.

Small quantities of new crop have been received, but not enough has been yet done in the same to clearly define values. Current quotations would not likely be sustained under anything like free offerings. The yield will undoubtedly prove light, and the market shows a generally firm tone.

OMAHA, Mar. 13.—Demand shows some improvement in January, having been much more active, but as anticipated there is no advance in prices. Market remains steady at 14@14 1/2c for fancy white comb and 8 1/2c for white extracted. The latter is pretty well cleaned up along the Missouri River, and it looks as if there would be some shortage before another crop comes in. From present appearances there is about enough comb honey to go around at the present prices, hence we look for no particular change in values.

PEYCKE BROS.

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made of sheet-brass which does not rust or burn out should last a life-time. You need one, but they cost 25 cents more than tin of the same size. The little pen cut shows our brass hinge put on the three larger sizes.



No wonder Bingham's 4-inch Smoke Engine goes without puffing and does not

**DROP INKY DROPS.**  
The perforated steel fire-grate has 381 holes to air the fuel and support the fire.

Prices; Heavy Tin Smoke Engine, four-inch Stove, per mail, \$1.50; 3½-inch, \$1.10; three-inch, \$1.00; 2½-inch, 90 cents; two-inch, 65 cents.

BINGHAM  
SMOKERS

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QUEENS in their season  
during 1900, at the following prices:

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Select Tested Queen,	
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Circular free, giving particulars regarding each class of Queens, conditions, etc. Address,

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Because in 23 years there have not been any complaints, but thousands of compliments.



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## Langstroth on the Honey-Bee, Revised.

The Classic in Bee-Culture—Price, \$1.25, by Mail.

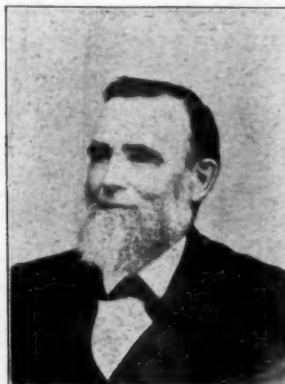
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Hamilton, Hancock Co., Ill.



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One Untested Queen Free as a Premium  
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to the American Bee Journal  
for one year.

We have been fortunate in making an arrangement with DR. C. C. MILLER—the well-known honey-specialist—to rear queens EXCLUSIVELY FOR US DURING THE

SEASON OF 1900. These Queens will be mailed in rotation, beginning about June 1, so "first come first served." We are ready to book orders now.

The Queens Dr. Miller will send out on our orders will be precisely the same as those he rears for his own use, so of course they will be from his best stock. His best colony in 1899 had a queen reared in 1898; May 5, 1899, it had brood in 4 frames, and he gave it at that time a frame of brood without bees. It had no other help, but May 25 a frame of brood with adhering bees was taken from it, and the same thing was repeated June 3, leaving it at that time 5 frames of brood. It stored 178 sections of honey, weighing 159 pounds (and that after July 20, in a poor season), being 2½ times the average yield of all his colonies. A point of importance is the fact this colony did not swarm, and an inspection every week or 10 days showed that at no time during the entire season was there even so much as an egg in a queen-cell. Dr. Miller expects to rear queens from this one during the coming summer.

The demand nowadays is for BEES THAT GET THE HONEY when there is any to get, and Dr. Miller has such bees. You will want to have a queen from his best, we are sure, even if she is not pure Italian.

Do not send any orders to Dr. Miller, as all orders MUST come thru us, according to our agreement.

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